

could participate. The Party favored a program including support for proposals by Congressmen Adam Clayton Powell of New York and Charles C. Diggs of Michigan to unseat the Mississippi representation in Congress; support for all civil rights, desegregation, and antipoll tax legislation; attacks against Attorney General Brownell; and a fight for a new enforcement order from the Supreme Court for desegregation.

Seven Party functionaries are known to have attended various sessions of the conference as spectators since none of them had been able to obtain authorized credentials. Communist literature such as the Daily Worker and a pamphlet entitled Behind the Lynching of Emmett Louis Till was distributed outside conference sessions.

The Party was quite disgruntled at its extremely limited role in the conference as was evidenced by Abner W. Berry in his column "On the Way, " in the Daily Worker:

"...the assembly leadership caused unnecessary griping and confusion by applying too much zeal in keeping delegations small blocking all attempts to discuss issues and in insisting upon injecting the alien note of anti-Communism."45

However, Berry pointed out that "the movement for civil rights was able to surmount these political diversions and make its imprint on the official mind of Washington."46